

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 510
By Harper

A RESOLUTION to honor Sister Kiwanis “Kitty” Hockett on her exemplary service to the congregation of Born Again Church and to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to pay homage to those outstanding citizens whose spirituality transcends the petty concerns of everyday life to create a brighter tomorrow by means of hard work and love for their fellow human beings; and

WHEREAS, Sister Kiwanis “Kitty” Hockett, associate pastor of Born Again Church, is a truly anointed woman of God and, as her many spiritual children will attest, a committed and compassionate “mother in Zion”; and

WHEREAS, she married Pastor Horace Hockett at age 19, and together they founded Born Again Church in 1978, holding their first service in her parent’s living room; and

WHEREAS, a hard worker, Sister Kitty, as she is affectionately known, has served the ministry all of her life in various capacities, including everything from driving the church van to cooking and cleaning, and even playing the drums on occasion; and

WHEREAS, a Nashville native and the sixth of eight children, she has a heart for young people. You can often find her working with the Youth Ministry or ministering individually to the church’s young men and women, who love and respect her enormously; and

WHEREAS, an anointed singer with a special love for music, she established the Junior Minstrels Youth Choir in 1989; and

WHEREAS, another project that is close to Sister Kitty's heart is the Women's Ministry, *Fashioned In His Image*, which she started in 1982 out of her desire to meet the needs of women within and outside of the church, by ministering to the whole woman-spirit, soul, and body. "We were created to be a blessing," she often says, "and we need to learn to glorify God with our whole being."; and

WHEREAS, an intercessor who seeks the heart of God in all she does, Sister Kitty has a passion for excellence; and

WHEREAS, a fervent believer in a life of holiness and truth, she has a way of getting right to the heart of a matter and few things escape her penetrating gaze; and

WHEREAS, with all this, the trait for which she is most revered is her sweet and genuinely loving spirit. She loves people, and always looks for the good in them, striving to see them as God does; and

WHEREAS, whenever she snatches a few moments from her hectic schedule, you will find Sister Kitty puttering in the soil. She loves flowers and gardening as a means of relaxation; and

WHEREAS, she and Pastor Horace are the parents of two sons, Horace II and Brian, both college students and young men who, by their character, show that they have been nurtured in the admonishment of the Lord; and

WHEREAS, when asked how she would like to be characterized, Sister Kitty replied, "Say I believe in supporting my husband, and in unity and teamwork within the Body of Christ."; and

WHEREAS, it is obvious that the Lord gave our pastor this wonderful lady as his support, help, wife, mother of his children, and co-laborer in the gospel; and

WHEREAS, "Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies...." the congregation of Born Again Church has found her, and her name is Sister Kitty; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Kiwanis "Kitty" Hockett on her exemplary service to the congregation of Born Again Church and to the citizens of Tennessee, commend her spirituality and faith, salute her many good works in service of God and humanity, and extend to this remarkable lady our best wishes for much continued success in her endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.